

Mr. Ilitch passed away last week at the age of 87. Mr. Ilitch was enthusiastic about sports, passionate about the city of Detroit, and dedicated to his family.

Mr. Ilitch was born in Detroit, MI, on July 20, 1929, to Macedonian immigrants, Sotir and Sultana. After graduating from Cooley High School, Mr. Ilitch served 4 years in the U.S. Marine Corps before returning to Detroit to play minor league baseball for the Tigers. Following a knee injury, Mr. Ilitch worked as a door-to-door salesperson, selling awnings, pots, and pans, in order to save enough money to start his own business.

In 1959, Mr. Ilitch and his wife, Marian, opened their first pizza store in the Detroit suburb of Garden City: Little Caesars Pizza. While Mr. Ilitch initially named the pizzeria Pizza Treat, his wife Marian convinced him to change it to Little Caesar, her nickname for him. Over four decades, Mr. Ilitch expanded the business to approximately 4,000 stores across North America and parts of Europe. The chain became well-known for its commercial tagline, "Pizza! Pizza!"

As Little Caesars grew to be one of the largest carryout pizza chains in the United States, Mr. Ilitch purchased the Detroit Red Wings hockey team in 1982, recognizing the great potential of a then failing team. By stocking the team with promising college players, Mr. Ilitch revitalized the Red Wings. Under Mr. Ilitch, the Red Wings won four Stanley Cup titles in 1997, 1998, 2002, and 2008, which led him to be inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 2003, as well as the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame in 2004.

In 1992, Mr. Ilitch acquired the Detroit Tigers baseball team—the same team that contracted him in the minor leagues. The Tigers reached the World Series twice under Mr. Ilitch's stewardship in 2006 and 2012.

An icon and pillar of the community, Mr. Ilitch never lost faith in the resurgence of the city of Detroit and the resilience of the people he loved so much. During the city's most challenging times, he poured his heart and passion into Detroit's renaissance. Mr. Ilitch played an active role in the community, supporting local organizations and residents. In 1987, Mr. Ilitch and his wife bought and restored the historic Fox Theater, rejuvenating the entertainment scene in downtown Detroit. He privately assisted civil rights activist, Rosa Parks, paying her rent when she moved into the Riverfront Apartments in 1994. In 2007, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs awarded Mr. Ilitch with the Secretary's Award for the "Little Caesars Veteran Program," which provided business opportunities to nobly discharged war veterans.

As an entrepreneur, leader, and kind-hearted family man, Mr. Ilitch will be greatly missed across Michigan as he touched the lives of many people throughout the State. Mr. Ilitch is survived by his wife of 63 years, Marian; 7

children, Denise, Ron, Michael, Jr., Lisa, Atanas, Christopher, and Carole; 22 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren.

I cannot express enough the impact Mr. Mike Ilitch had on the city of Detroit and the State of Michigan. He was truly a treasure to our community and an example of the American Dream. His passion, dedication, and leadership will be missed. However, I am confident his legacy will continue to inspire others to take action to strengthen the city of Detroit, the community he served with his whole heart.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CRADDOCK MORRIS

● Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, today, I would like to honor and thank Mr. Craddock Morris of St. Matthews, SC for 87 years of valuable reporting in Calhoun County. The Calhoun Times, a small weekly paper in our great state, has decided to cease publication after a truly amazing run of nearly nine decades of providing town residents with community news.

The Times was created by Craddock Morris's father in 1929. John Bunyan Morris, Sr., a 1950 graduate of The Citadel, ran it until his retirement in 1956, when Craddock took over. Although this local newspaper, based in St. Matthews, will no longer be published, I am sure the Morris family's legacy of good work will remain with residents all over Calhoun County.

I would like to recognize Mr. Craddock Morris, and his son Edwin C. Morris who joined the Times after serving in the Armed Forces, and their families for 87 years of delivering essential news to the people of Calhoun County.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:12 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 244. An act to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes.

H.R. 512. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit veterans to grant access to their records in the databases of the Veterans Benefits Administration to certain designated congressional employees, and for other purposes.

H.R. 609. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs health care center in Center Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, as the "Abie Abraham VA Clinic".

H.R. 974. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in awarding a contract for the procurement of goods or services, to give a preference to offerors that employ veterans.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 931(c) of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-198), and the

order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Creating Options for Veterans' Expedited Recovery Commission: Captain John M. Rose, United States Navy, Retired, Kenosha, Wisconsin and Lieutenant Colonel Jamil S. Khan, United States Marine Corps, Retired, Janesville, Wisconsin.

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2103(b), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress on the part of the House of Representatives for a term of 6 years: Ms. Patricia A. Atkinson of Carson City, Nevada.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 553(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Commission on Military, National and Public Service: Mr. Thomas Kilgannon of Centreville, Virginia.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 3(b) of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 15202), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Medal of Valor Review Board for a term of 4 years: Mr. Brandon Clabes of Choctaw, Oklahoma and Mr. Brian Murphy of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), amended, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission for a term expiring on December 31, 2018: Mr. Larry Wortzel of Williamsburg, Virginia and Mr. Robert Glenn Hubbard of New York, New York.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 244. An act to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 512. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit veterans to grant access to their records in the databases of the Veterans Benefits Administration to certain designated congressional employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 609. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs health care center in Center Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, as the "Abie Abraham VA Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 974. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in awarding a contract for the procurement of goods or services, to give a preference to offerors that employ veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Army nominations beginning with Jeremy D. Karlin and ending with Irahah A. Sanchez, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 9, 2017.

Navy nomination of Mathew M. Lewis, to be Lieutenant Commander.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 367. A bill to amend section 3606 of title 18, United States Code, to grant probation officers authority to arrest hostile third parties who obstruct or impede a probation officer in the performance of official duties; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FLAKE:

S. 368. A bill to require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to issue a scientifically valid and State-supported recovery plan for the Mexican gray wolf; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 369. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in awarding a contract for the procurement of goods or services, to give a preference to offerors that employ veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. PAUL, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 370. A bill to eliminate the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection by repealing title X of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, commonly known as the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CORKER:

S. 371. A bill to make technical changes and other improvements to the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. RUBIO, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 372. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to ensure that merchandise arriving through the mail shall be subject to review by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and to require the provision of advance electronic information on shipments of mail to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 373. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress a report on hearing loss, tinnitus, and noise pollution due to small arms fire; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. NELSON):

S. 374. A bill to enable concrete masonry products manufacturers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research, education, and promotion to improve, maintain, and develop markets for concrete masonry products; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 375. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to establish a procedure for approval of certain settlements; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. FLAKE, and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 376. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require publication on the Internet of the basis for determinations that species are endangered species or threatened species, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 377. A bill to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to clarify report dates, modify the criteria for determinations of whether countries are meeting the minimum standards for elimination of trafficking, and highlight the importance of concrete actions by countries to eliminate trafficking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. ENZI):

S. 378. A bill to amend titles 5 and 28, United States Code, to require the maintenance of databases on awards of fees and other expenses to prevailing parties in certain administrative proceedings and court cases to which the United States is a party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 94

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 94, a bill to impose sanctions in response to cyber intrusions by the Government of the Russian Federation and other aggressive activities of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

S. 203

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 203, a bill to reaffirm that the Environmental Protection

Agency may not regulate vehicles used solely for competition, and for other purposes.

S. 234

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 234, a bill to provide incentives for businesses to keep jobs in America.

S. 242

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 242, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit veterans to grant access to their records in the databases of the Veterans Benefits Administration to certain designated congressional employees, and for other purposes.

S. 243

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 243, a bill to provide for a permanent extension of the enforcement instruction on supervision requirements for outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals.

S. 247

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 247, a bill to provide an incentive for businesses to bring jobs back to America.

S. 251

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 251, a bill to repeal the Independent Payment Advisory Board in order to ensure that it cannot be used to undermine the Medicare entitlement for beneficiaries.

S. 253

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 253, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 266

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 266, a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Anwar Sadat in recognition of his heroic achievements and courageous contributions to peace in the Middle East.

S. 268

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Arkansas